



## CHRISTMAS 2025 ARRANGEMENTS

It's that magical (and for some, slightly hectic!) time of year again—Christmas is just around the corner at Ratray! As our classrooms sparkle with decorations and festive cheer fills the corridors, the excitement is truly building. Our incredible staff have been working tirelessly to make this season joyful and memorable for every pupil and their family, and I want to take a moment to thank them for their dedication.

We also recognise that the rising cost of living can make this time challenging for some families. To ensure everyone can join in without added financial strain, we've kept our events free or very low-cost. Despite these considerations, we're thrilled to have planned a fantastic programme of festive activities for our children and families to enjoy together.

We know many children will have outgrown last year's Christmas jumpers and festive outfits. If your child no longer needs theirs, please consider handing it into school so we can give it a new home. Likewise, if your child would love a Christmas jumper, just give the office a call—we'll check our collection of preloved jumpers to see if we have one that fits. Let's spread the joy, save some pennies, and keep the festive spirit going!

### Ratray Christmas Tree

We're delighted to share that, once again this year, the Mieзитis Family has generously donated a Christmas tree for our dining hall. We're expecting its arrival later this week—and who knows, perhaps the Grinch will make a special delivery again! Our pupils are already busy creating beautiful decorations to make our school tree extra festive. A big thank you to the Mieзитis family for their generosity.

### Christmas Hampers

This year we are asking for donations towards our Christmas hampers which will be raffled through tickets bought on Parent Pay. Please send any donations to school with your child or pass them into the school office. The draw will take place on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**. All proceeds will be used to support school events, including this year's Christmas activities. Thank you in advance for all your support.

### Local Care Homes

Once again, our older classes will be making Christmas cards and writing a personal letter to the residents of all Blairgowrie care homes. This will hopefully brighten up someone's Christmas! Alongside this we have arranged for our P4 and P4/5 classes to visit Stormont Care Home to sing to the residents on the afternoon of Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Could all the children in these classes wear something festive on this day to add to the Christmas fun!

### Nursery Christmas Parties – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December

On the above date, our nursery Christmas parties will take place. Children can wear party dress to nursery on the above dates.

### **Infant Nativity - Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

This year's infant Nativity 'Baarmy Bethlehem' will be performed on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December, at the times of 9.30am and 1.30pm. This year P1-3 will be leading the nativity, and you can expect to see the usual high standard of show you have become accustomed to. Entry to the event is a 'food donation' which will be used for our Christmas Hampers. Any surplus items will be donated to The Trussell Trust Foodbank. Tickets can be booked through the following links.

9.30am performance - <https://forms.office.com/e/4DFdtHD3k5>

1.30pm performance - <https://forms.office.com/e/z7d1YPx0SR>

Numbers are capped initially at 2 tickets per family. If there are further tickets available, these will be released in time. Before the morning performance and after the afternoon performance tea/coffee, mince pies and shortie will be available for everyone attending in our school GP room.

### **Pupil Festive Fun Day – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

On these days pupils will be able to enjoy a variety of Christmas themed stalls such as Pin the Nose on Rudolph, Christmas Ping-Pong, Bouncy Castle, Festive Hot Chocolate, Higher and Lower and lots more. Children will be given two tokens to use on the stalls as a gift from the school and parents will have the opportunity to purchase additional tokens through Parent Pay for their children to use. One token will equal 50p.

Supporting this event supports our school, as any income gained contributes to all our Christmas activities.

### **School Christmas Lunch – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

School Cook Elaine and her wonderful team will be serving up Christmas Lunch on the last Thursday of term. This can be paid for, as usual, through parent pay.

### **Nursery Christmas Activity and Song Day – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December (1.20 to 2.50pm)**

All nursery families are invited to attend the above event which will be held in our Early Childhood Centre. At 2.45pm there will be a celebration of next steps too.

### **Christmas Disco – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

All children (and staff) are invited to attend a disco on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December. This will take place in the school assembly hall from 6pm to 6.45pm for P1 to P3 pupils, and from 7pm to 8pm for P4-7 pupils. Entry is £2 per child and all proceeds will go to school funds. Party clothes or casual clothes can be worn. **Parent helpers are most definitely welcome!**

### **Christmas at the 'Hub' - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2pm**

All the classes will join together in singing some festive favourites in the Rattray Community Connect building (The Hub) from. This will be held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm. Entry to the event is a 'foodstuff donation' which will be used for our Christmas Hampers. Any surplus items will be donated to The Trussell Trust Foodbank. Christmas jumpers/clothing are a must! Tickets can be booked through the following link.

Christmas at the Hub - <https://forms.office.com/e/v18rkNkQRH>

Numbers are capped initially at 2 tickets per family (not per child). If there are further tickets available, these will be released in time.

**Christmas Jumper Day - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December we would like to invite everyone (pupils and staff) to dress up in a Christmas jumper or outfit or Dress down in casual clothes for Christmas jumper day.

**Class Christmas Parties – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December we are going to be holding a whole school Pyjama Day. This will double as a Christmas party day for all our classes. We invite all children to wear pyjamas, onesies, or anything else festive. This will be worn outside during break and lunch time so needs to be weather appropriate! Please do not go to the expense of buying new clothing for this event. Each class is likely to watch a movie on this date, we will update as to what that is nearer the time.

**Santa Run – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

On the above date we will be hosting our third Rattray Santa Run. All children from P1 – P7 will participate in a run or walk around the common followed by a fun outdoor disco. Children can wear a Santa hat or other festive head gear on this day to help with the festive feel!

**Last day of term**

Our school and early childhood centre closes for our Winter break at **12 noon on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**.

Thank you in advance for the support we will receive to make this a festive period to remember! If you have any questions or queries regarding any of the items within this newsletter, please don't hesitate to contact the school office or the email address below.

Yours faithfully



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### **Ratray Christmas Overview**

| When   | What  | Who for   | Anything else  |
|--|---|---|--|
| Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December<br>(PM)                           | Stormont Lodge Care<br>Home Christmas Visit | P4 and P4/5<br>classes                                | Dress up with a<br>Christmas jumper or<br>outfit                                     |
| Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December<br>(AM and PM)                      | Nursery children<br>Christmas Party         | Nursery children                                      | Wear party clothes   |
| Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December<br>(9.30am and 1.30pm)             | Infant Nativity                             | P1-3 families and<br>guests                           | Book a ticket<br>Bring a food<br>bank/hamper item                                    |
| Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> and<br>Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December | Pupil Festive Fun day<br>(in -school event) | Primary school pupils                                 | Buy tokens via<br>ParentPay  |
| Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December                                   | Christmas Lunch                             | Primary School and<br>Nursery staff and<br>pupils     | Payment via<br>ParentPay   |
| Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December<br>(1.20 to 2.50pm)               | Nursery Christmas<br>Activity and Song Day  | Nursery pupils and<br>parents                         | x  |
| Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December                                   | Christmas Disco                             | P1-3 pupils – 6 –<br>6.45pm<br>P4-7 pupils - 7 to 8pm | Wear party or casual<br>clothes<br>£2 on the door                                    |
| Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December                                     | Christmas Jumper Day                        | Primary School and<br>Nursery staff and<br>pupils     | Dress up with a<br>Christmas jumper or<br>outfit<br>Dress down in<br>casual clothes  |
| Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December                                     | Carols in the Hub<br>(2pm)                  | Primary School and<br>Nursery families and<br>guests  | Book a ticket<br>Bring a food<br>bank/hamper item<br>Wear something<br>Christmassy!! |
| Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December<br>(all day)                        | Christmas Party Day                         | Primary school pupils                                 | Wear PJs or<br>something relaxed   |
| Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December                                     | Christmas Hamper<br>Draw                    | Primary School and<br>Nursery staff and<br>parents    | Buy tickets via<br>ParentPay   |
| Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December<br>AM                              | Ratray Santa Run                            | Primary School and<br>Nursery staff and<br>pupils     | Wear a Santa Hat or<br>Christmas Headgear  |